



*Community Christian Church  
Lincolnshire, Illinois*

## December 2010 Newsletter



### *Christmas at Community Christian Church*

*Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> ..... 9:00 am*

The outdoor nativity scene has been a church tradition and neighborhood favorite since the 1970s. Join us as we erect the scene again this year.

*Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> ..... 8:00/10:00 am*

On the second Sunday of Advent, we will light the candle of LOVE as we reflect on the love of God made known to us through Jesus Christ.

*Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> ..... 10:00 am*

On the third Sunday of Advent, we will light the pink candle of JOY and receive the gift of music as the choir offers a Christmas cantata worship experience. A potluck luncheon immediately follows the choir cantata. Contact the church office to sign up.

*..... 12:30 pm*

A children's Christmas program will be presented in the sanctuary. Watch and enjoy as the light of the world reaches humankind, as re-enacted by the youngest among us. Contact the church office to inquire or volunteer.

*Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> ..... 8:00/10:00 am*

On the fourth Sunday in Advent, we will light the candle of PEACE during worship in anticipation of His coming.

*Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> ..... 7:30 pm*

The Christ candle will be lit during a Christmas Eve worship service, and we will share the light that has come into the world as a symbol of God's promise fulfilled.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Nelson's Notes	2
Serving CCC This Month	3
December Sermons	3
Upcoming Events	4
Sunday School	6
Stephen Ministry	8
Birthdays & Anniversaries	9
CCC Prayer Page	10
CCC Calendar	11



**REVIVE! &  
ALIVE!**

Page 5

### *SAVE THESE DATES*

*April 9, 2011  
Birthday Dinner*

*October 1, 2011  
CCC Garage Sale*

# Nelson's Notes

## A Christmas To Remember

The greatest story ever told needs no embellishment. It occupies little more than a single page of writing. It begins with the mundane duty of paying taxes. It continues with a journey that was not unusual for the time. The plot thickens when no room can be found in the inn. And it ends with some of the most glorious pronouncements ever heard: "good tidings of great joy," "peace on earth," and "good will toward men."

As we look forward to Christmas this year, let's look back to Christmases past and appreciate what makes them memorable. Some memories may involve less-than-perfect circumstances- and that's all right. Few real-life celebrations resemble the slick ads and scenes in holiday movies. In fact, sometimes the most cherished Christmases take place in conditions less than ideal. Unrealistic expectations for a picture-perfect Christmas may be misleading and actually keep us from appreciating its more satisfying blessings. Everything does not have to be just right for wonderful things to happen.

As such memories fill our hearts, remember that the reason the simple story of Bethlehem inspires us because everyone acted out of love: Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the wise men, and especially the newborn babe.

No imitations, no staging or drama, nothing less than real love came to earth that night. That's what made the first Christmas perfect, and why we return to celebrate each year.

...And that's what can make this Christmas perfect for you. No matter the circumstances for Christmas this year, cherished moments are within reach. Hold a child in your arms. Pause to look at the night sky. Welcome friends and family into your home, and listen to heavenly choirs. Give the love that only you can give, and you will have a memorable Christmas: a Christmas that recalls that first holy night when, in the lowliest of circumstances, the Son of God was born.

Reflect on these words: "Through all the advents of our life that we celebrate goes the longing for the final Advent, where it says: "Behold, I make all things new" (Rev. 21:5). Advent is a time of waiting. Our whole life, however, is Advent- that is, a time of waiting for the ultimate, for the time when there will be a new heaven and a new earth, when all people are brothers and sisters and one rejoices in the words of the angels: "On earth peace to those on whom God's favor rests." Dietrich Bonhoefer

~ Nelson

Please contact the minister  
any time you feel it's necessary.

Nelson Irving  
Interim Minister  
847 778-3933  
[N.Irving@comcast.net](mailto:N.Irving@comcast.net)



Community Christian Church  
Office Hours 9 am - 1 pm  
1970 Riverwoods Road  
Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069  
847 945-8824  
[CCCLincolnshire@comcast.net](mailto:CCCLincolnshire@comcast.net)  
[www.CCCLincolnshire.org](http://www.CCCLincolnshire.org)

## Upcoming Sermons



**December 5: "The Season of Miracles" John 15:9-13**  
Christmas IS the season of miracles...the wonder and beauty of pageants...the inspiration of Handel's "Messiah" and joyous Christmas music...the magic of lights, decorations and candles...the warmth of cards and festive gatherings. And of course, miracles are much, much more! At times we hold on to what feels like a thin line of faith, and it gets us through. This, too, is a miracle. And of course, miracles are much, much more!

### **December 12: Christmas Cantata**

We will light the pink candle of JOY and receive the gift of music as the choir offers a Christmas cantata worship experience. A potluck luncheon immediately follows the choir cantata. The children's Christmas program will be presented in the sanctuary. Watch and enjoy as the light of the world reaches humankind, as re-enacted by the youngest among us.

### **December 19: "Precious Moments" Luke 1:46-55**

God's coming into the world in flesh and blood in Jesus of Nazareth proclaims the divinity of life and the value of every precious moment. Every minute we have- every moment- is the gift of God. There are no throw-away moments. Every moment matters. But, Oh, those unexpected ones!

### **December 24:**

**Christmas Eve Service of Carols and Candlelight**

### **December 26: "Jesus is the Christ" John 3:16**

On that long ago night in the village of Bethlehem, a new life came into the world- a world that would be changed forever. Jesus is the embodiment of God's character...and his love. Jesus is Emanuel, God with us, the Christ, who promises that those who believe in him will never perish. This is the Good News that is for all people. Thanks be to God! Amen.



## In His Service This Month

### Liturgists

12/5/2010	Bev
12/12/2010	Dannie
12/19/2010	Chuck
12/26/2010	Kerry

### Elders

12/5/2010	Lauren
12/12/2010	Ann
12/19/2010	Lauren
12/26/2010	Andrea

### Deacons

12/5/2010	Patrick
	Stacey
	Dannie
	Kim
12/12/2010	Callum
	Bev
	Emily
	Audrey
12/19/2010	Chuck
	Amy
	Ruby
12/26/2010	Susan
	John
	Sean
	Diane

*If you are able to fill a needed position, or are not able to serve on your date, please find someone to replace you and inform the church secretary. Thank you!*

# Keep Smiling!

A woman went to the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas Cards. "What denomination?" asked the clerk.

"Oh, good heavens! Have we come to this?" said the woman. "Well, give me 30 Catholic, 10 Baptist ones, 20 Lutheran, and 40 Presbyterian."



### Upcoming Events

- 12/4 Men's Breakfast, 8am  
Set Up Outdoor Nativity, 9am
- 12/5 Congregational Meeting
- 12/8 Soup Kitchen, 4-7pm
- 12/11 Women's Coffee Break, 8am
- 12/12 Christmas Celebration, 10am
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service, 7:30pm

*Youth Activities are listed on page 5*

### Ongoing Events

- Worship Services - Sundays, 8 & 10am
- Café 920 - Sundays, 9:20am
- Youth Group Meetings - Sundays, 11:30am-1pm
- Prayer Group - Tuesdays, 9am
- Soup Kitchen - 2nd Wednesday, 4pm
- Choir Practice - Wednesdays, 7pm
- Men's Breakfast - 1st Saturday, 8am
- Women's Coffee Break - 2nd Saturday, 8am



The next monthly CCC men's breakfast meeting will be Saturday, December 4, from 8-9am in Thompson Hall. We will be discussing the book Who You Are When No One's Looking by Bill Hybels. For the discussion, please read Chapter 3. As always, all are welcome even if you don't get a chance to do the reading assignment -- come for the company!

If you have any questions, please contact Charlie Service [csakserv@aol.com](mailto:csakserv@aol.com)



### **Do You Have a Few Extra Christmas Cards?**

The Red Cross is sponsoring Holiday Mail for Heroes. This is what you do. Send a holiday card, perhaps with a short message of cheer and/or thanks, to:

Holiday Mail for Heroes  
P.O. Box 5456

Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456 by DECEMBER 10.  
OR bring cards to church on December 5 and Ann will send a bunch. No need for an envelope; for security, all cards will be opened. It would be wonderful for children of all ages to send cards too. It is suggested to sign first names only, for example: "Mary from Illinois." Thank you!

### **Relax ♥ Rejuvenate ♥ Recaffeinate**

Now more than ever you may need some R & R! Don't miss the December women's coffee on Saturday, December 11. We meet at Einstein Brothers Bagels in Lincolnshire at 8am and we'd love to see you there. You don't need to do a thing - other than show up ready to talk, listen, and relax during this very busy time of year. Any questions? Contact the church office.

Hope to see you there!





# CCC Youth Page

## CCC Youth Mission:

"To gather as friends in a fun, safe environment  
to share stories and learn how to center our lives on Christ."

# ALIVE!

5<sup>th</sup> THROUGH 8<sup>th</sup> GRADERS

# REVIVE!

9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Graders



## "Tis the Season"...

...or "Is it Winter Break yet?" Thanksgiving comes and goes so quickly and it's such a tease because we know that the two-week break is coming at Christmas time. Do you have travel plans? We'd like to know so we can think about you in Mexico or Aruba or Colorado or Switzerland!! (We will also pray for your safe travels.) If you're staying home we'd like to hear from you also. We're planning a super festive Christmas Party with great games and maybe some yummy treats, but that all depends on what you're bringing - so let us know, okay? Go to [Facebook](#) or [Email the church office](#) - put Christmas plans in the subject box...can't wait to hear from you!

## For Your Christmas List

"We're losing 50-70% of our youth to the world before they graduate from high school," says Josh McDowell, a Christian writer. 92% of our youth and many adults play secular video games. This is because almost no Christian games have been available to compete with the multimillion dollar budgets of secular games for 35 years. Right now, Family Christian Stores is carrying an entire product line of Christian games this Christmas season. To see the product line, go to [www.LBGames.com/family](http://www.LBGames.com/family)



MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

## December Schedule

12/5	11:30am-1pm	Attic/FH	Revive	Gather2Grow
	11:30am-1pm	Youth Room	Alive	Gather2Grow
12/12	10am	Cantata/Lunch/	Pageant	Attend with Family
12/19	11:30am-1pm	Youth Room	Both	Christmas Party
12/26	11:30am-1pm	Youth Room	Both	You, Me & Wii



## Sunday School Workshop Rotation for 2010-2011

# Test of Faith

Throughout the scriptures people faced many challenges to their faith. From Adam and Eve to you and me, there are times when we do well and live in ways that are pleasing to God. At other times we find ourselves in need of God's grace because we have missed the mark. Through the stories of faith we learn that God's grace is always extended to us.

December – Christmas Dreams  
January – Healing Miracles  
February – Garden of Gethsemane

March – Doubting Thomas  
April – Pentecost  
May – Jonah



December 5 (following 10am service)

- ❖ Costume choices/fittings
- ❖ Character assignments
- ❖ Script assignments/angels practice dance

December 12 (during 10am service)

- ❖ Run through in Friendship Hall
- ❖ Children eat lunch first
- ❖ Dress
- ❖ Pageant to be performed after lunch

## CCC Christmas Pageant 2010 December 12 Following Pot Luck Lunch

### Cast List

Mary  
Joseph  
Innkeeper  
Angels  
Animals  
Shepherds  
Stars

Anyone wishing to have  
a particular role can  
contact the church  
office

by December 4, 2010

**Attention Youth!**

**Narrators Needed!**

Please let us know if you  
can read for the  
pageant. Thanks!

## 2011 CCC Directory Updates

In January you will get an updated directory. Please let the church office know any changes to your directory listing. The sooner the better!

Want to update your directory family photo? Take a new picture after church on Dec. 5, 12, 19 & 26.

### 2011 Directory



*Community  
Christian  
Church*

At the same time, the church database will be updated and currently some information is missing. Here's a list of information needed from you about each member of your family:

### Year of Birth

- ♦ Adults over the age of 20 only

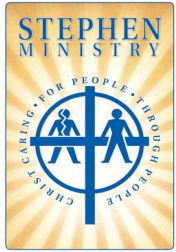
### Do you want to continue receiving email from CCC?

- ♦ Yes or No

Please [respond promptly](#) to the church office.







## Happiest Time of the Year----

### NOT

Ever since early childhood we have been told that Christmas time is the very best time of the year. In reality, it is often overwhelmingly sad. We get so caught up in the "busy-ness" of the holidays that we lose the real reason.

If you need help refocusing on the birth of the Christ Child and the love and joy of that event you may well find time with a Stephen Minister beneficial. Call the church office to begin.

## Save Your Coffee Tins

Over 30 coffee cans will be needed for Cookie Sunday in January. We will be sending cookies to college students as part of CCC's birthday celebration. Please bring your cans in and place them in the kitchen. Thank you for your help!



## CCC STILL Needs a Recycling Buddy!

Many of us are trying to reduce the amount of garbage we produce here at CCC. Several people already are CCC recycling buddies, but we need at least one more to coordinate the recycling of the kitchen materials that are stored in the back closet in the Friendship Hall kitchen. If you would like to take on this cause, please help yourself or [contact the church office](#) for more information.



## Learn More About the

## CCC Elders

Do you know who your shepherding elder is? Would you like to know more about them? We would like to start adding interviews to this column. What would you like to ask us? [Contact the church office](#) to answer these questions.



## Seasonal Decorations Up with Merriment

On Saturday, November 27 the CCC halls were decked to the tunes of the season. Thanks to:

Jim  
Andy  
Laura  
Pip  
Ginny  
Perry  
Judy  
Roger  
Kevin  
Bev  
Ellen  
Jayne

for helping with this fun filled task.



The large fresh wreath above the piano and the two wreaths on the front doors of Lanier Hall are gifts from Boy Scout Troop 78. Thank you, thank you, thank you! They are beautiful!



# Happy Birthday!

Andrea	5
Scott	6
Bob	6
Dave	7
Dale	8
Chris	9
Devon	11
Anna	15
Diane	16
Emily	16
JJ	20
Phyllis	21
Joe	22
David	23
Margaret	24
Joey	25
Kerry	27
Judy	27
Dick	29
Emma	30
Richard	30
Roger	30
Jack	30
Daniel	31
Nina	31



# Happy Anniversary!

Saford and Kathy	1
Brian and Lauren	3

# Thank You!!

Thank you to those who went to the Soup Kitchen in November where 230 meals were served:

Jim  
Ping  
Lynn & Rich  
Dawn  
Chris  
Jamal  
Judy & Ruby  
Jessie  
Borchueh

Thank you to all who helped with Coffee Fellowship in September.

Bev  
Dannie & Michael  
John, Susan, Noah & Maya

Thank you to Andrea, Ann, Gill and all those who helped with the Service of Remembrance.

Thank you to Pip, Jeff and Callum for attending the CCIW Regional Assembly.

Thank you for being so generous and helping with the Thanksgiving Food Boxes and the Angel Tree.

## 2011 Birthday Dinner & Auction

April 9th is the date to mark on your 2011 calendar now! Our 47th Birthday celebration will be AFTER the snow and ice, with hints of spring on every table!

The Auction Committee is at work to solicit businesses for donations. We'll keep you informed as they arrive. We are planning a great raffle, will once again offer mystery bags, and already have commitments for wonderful "one of a kind" offerings from our congregation. Don't miss the fun; save the date!

## Long Term Prayer List

When a name is put on the long term prayer list, it will remain there for six months. At the end of that time period, it will be removed. If you feel a name needs to stay on the list beyond six months, simply resubmit the name when it is removed and it will gladly be added.

Andrew	Mary
Ann	Nan & John
Ann, Jim & family	National & World
Ariel & families	Leaders
Barb	Our Pastoral Search
Beverly	Committee
Bianca	Our Stephen Ministry
Darryl	Our Troops
George	Scott
Great Grampa	Tony's family
Jane	Tracy
Lesli	Wendy
Linda	



## Short Term Prayer List

Names added to the short term prayer list will appear for three consecutive weeks, after which, if there is need to continue, they will be moved to the long term prayer list.

Denny, Jane, Frank  
Eleanore  
John  
Karen  
Kay  
Mary  
McKenna

## Service of Remembrance

Music and candlelight graced the first annual Service of Remembrance at CCC. The service was held on November 7th to remember and honor loved ones, family and friends, who are now in God's loving care.

As each name was read aloud a candle was lit. Over 120 names were lifted up.

Our Stephen Ministers and Elders read scripture and poetry. Sharon sang "The Lord's Prayer" and Soyeon played the lovely Consolation No. 3 by Franz Liszt. Our minister Nelson Irving spoke about loss. Everyone who participated helped create a moving and meaningful experience for all in attendance.

An all-church pot luck followed the service. Judy provided pulled pork sandwiches and there was an abundance of delicious food to accompany the main dish.

Please join us next year on  
**Sunday November 6, 2011**  
when we will again honor  
those we have loved and lost.

Thanks to all who helped organize and who participated in the Service of remembrance. We particularly want to thank:

The Stephen Ministers and Elders who sponsored the service and potluck, and worked hard to make the event meaningful for all who attended.

Soyeon who played so beautifully.

Pip and Judy who created posters, programs, signups, and badges.

Pip who searched for and donated the candle trays.

Ann, Chris, Kendra, Judy, and Lauren our readers.

Sharon who blessed us with her lovely voice.

Nelson Irving who touched our hearts with his words.

Gill, Kay, Ping, Perry and Judy who helped setup for the potluck.

All you wonderful people who stayed after to cleanup.

# DECEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			7p Choir Practice			<div>8a Men's Breakfast</div> <div>9a Outdoor Nativity</div>
<div>LOVE</div> <div>5</div>	6	7	8	9	10	11
<div>8a Worship</div> <div>10a Worship</div> <div>11a Gather2Grow</div> <div>11a</div> <div>Congregational Meeting</div>	<div>7p Troop 78-FH,S,TH</div>	<div>9a Prayer Group</div> <div>7p Troop 78-FH</div>	<div>4p Soup Kitchen</div> <div>7p Choir Practice</div>			<div>8a Women's Coffee Break</div>
<div>JOY</div> <div>12</div>	13	14	15	16	17	18
<div>10a Cantata, Luncheon &amp; Children's Pageant</div>	<div>7p Troop 78-FH,S,TH</div>	<div>9a Prayer Group</div> <div>7p Troop 78-FH,S,TH</div>	<div>7p Choir Practice</div>			
<div>PEACE</div> <div>19</div>	20	21	22	23	24	25
<div>8a Worship</div> <div>10a Worship</div> <div>11a Christmas Party</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>7p Troop 78-FH,S,TH</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>9a Prayer Group</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>7p Choir Practice</div>	<div>Winter Break</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>7:30p Christmas Eve Service</div>	<div>Christmas</div>
<div>26</div>	27	28	29	30	31	
<div>8a Worship</div> <div>10a Worship</div> <div>11a You, Me &amp; Wii</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>7p Troop 78-FH,S,TH</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>9a Prayer Group</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>7p Choir Practice</div>	<div>Winter Break</div>	<div>Winter Break</div> <div>New Year's Eve</div>	